



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steve Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Energy and Environment Cabinet Announces Grants to Cleanup Illegal Dumps *Funds will eliminate 102 illegal dumps in 20 counties*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 17, 2014) – The Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) today announced that \$876,730 in grant funding has been awarded by the Kentucky Pride Fund for cleanup of 102 illegal dumps in 20 counties across the Commonwealth.

“Illegal dumping is a major problem that raises significant concerns with regard to safety, property values and quality of life in our communities,” said EEC Secretary Len Peters. “It is a major economic burden on local governments that are typically responsible for cleaning up dump sites.”

The following counties received grants: Bath, Breathitt, Calloway, Campbell, Crittenden, Cumberland, Elliott, Green, Hart, Henderson, Jackson, Jessamine, Leslie, Lyon, Madison, Owsley, Powell, Warren, Whitley and Wolfe.

As part of the grant funding, counties must agree to provide a 25 percent match on illegal open dumps costing less than \$50,000 to cleanup. EEC may waive the 25 percent match on any individual dump costing more than \$50,000 to remediate.

The Division of Waste Management administers the Kentucky Pride Fund to clean up county dump sites. Funding for the program comes from a \$1.75 environmental remediation fee for each ton of garbage disposed of at Kentucky municipal solid waste disposal facilities. This “tipping fee,” authorized by the 2002 General Assembly under House Bill 174, is collected quarterly and placed in the Kentucky Pride Fund.

The Kentucky Pride Fund is the first legislated and ongoing source of state funding for dump cleanup. Previously, illegal open dump cleanup in Kentucky was primarily funded by county and federal money. In 2006, Senate Bill 50 changed the reimbursement program to a grant program. The legislation also expanded the scope of the fund to address household hazardous waste collection and recycling infrastructure, in addition to illegal dump and old landfill projects.

Kentucky has made significant progress in addressing the illegal dump issue thanks to this funding, along with statewide cleanup and educational campaigns by local, state and federal agencies, Secretary Peters said.

For grant amounts, call your local solid waste coordinator or contact Gary Logsdon at 502-564-6716.

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